

**Status of the Claims**

**1-33. (Canceled)**

**34. (Original)** A method for operating a single channel reformatter ("SCR"), comprising:

specifying a group of source-to-destination links, each said link indicative of a source well from which liquid is removed and indicative of a destination well that receives the removed liquid;

determining a preferred execution order for said source-to-destination links; and  
executing said source-to-destination links in said preferred execution order by removing liquid from said indicated source well and delivering it to said indicated destination well for each specified source-to-destination link.

**35. (Original)** The method of claim 34 wherein said step of executing further comprises:

obtaining spatial coordinates for said source-to-destination links; and  
converting said spatial coordinates into actuator control information.

**36. (Original)** The method of claim 35 wherein said step of executing further comprises actuating positioners within said SCR using said actuator control information.

**37. (Original)** The method of claim 36 wherein said step of executing further comprises:

positioning an indicated source well at a specified location in an x-y plane by actuating an x-y positioner;  
aspirating said liquid from said indicated source well;  
positioning an indicated destination well at said specified location in said x-y plane by actuating said x-y positioner; and  
dispensing said aspirated liquid into said indicated destination well.

**38. (Canceled)**

**39. (Original)** The method of claim 34 wherein said step of determining further comprises sequencing said source-to-destination links such that a destination well of a subsequent source-to-destination link is the closest well to a destination well of a previous source-to-destination link.

**40. (Original)** The method of claim 34 wherein said step of specifying further comprises forming an array of source-to-destination links, wherein:

said array has a size equal to a number of destination wells in a destination container, and said specified group of source-to-destination links is a subset of said array of source-to-destination links.

**41. (Original)** The method of claim 40 wherein said step of specifying further comprises activating the source-to-destination links in said array that correspond to said group of source-to-destination links.

**42. (Original)** The method of claim 41 wherein said step of specifying further comprises, for each activated source-to-destination link:

specifying a row and a column indicative of a position of said indicated source well;

specifying a row and a column indicative of a position of said indicated destination well; and

specifying said determined execution order.

**43. (Original)** The method of claim 42 wherein said step of specifying further comprises using a graphical interface whereby:

said row and column of said indicated source well is specified via a pictorial representation of a source container; and

said row and column of said indicated destination well is specified via a pictorial representation of said destination container.

**44. (New)** The method of claim 34 wherein liquid is removed from said indicated source well and delivered to said indicated destination well using a first liquid transfer vehicle, and wherein liquid removal and delivery comprises a liquid transfer operation, and further comprising cleaning said first liquid transfer vehicle with an integrated wash system.

**45. (New)** The method of claim 44 further comprising driving said liquid transfer operation and said cleaning with a single drive mechanism.

**46. (New)** The method of claim 44 further comprising readying said integrated wash system for a wash cycle during said liquid transfer operation by:

aspirating cleaning fluid to a second liquid transfer vehicle from a first reservoir;  
and

dispensing contaminated cleaning fluid from a third liquid transfer vehicle to a waste location;

wherein said aspirating and dispensing occur as said liquid is dispensed into said indicated destination well.

**47. (New)** The method of claim 44 further comprising conducting a wash cycle by aspirating cleaning fluid from said second liquid transfer vehicle to said first liquid transfer vehicle.

**48. (New)** The method of claim 34 wherein said source well is from a plate having a relatively lower-density format and said destination well is from a plate having a relatively higher-density format.

**49. (New)** A method for operating a single channel reformatter ("SCR"), comprising using a single drive mechanism to conduct a reformatting operation and a washing operation, wherein:

said reformatting operation is conducting by aspirating liquid from a well in a first plate having a first format and dispensing it to a well in a second plate having a second format, wherein said first format is different from said second format, and wherein said liquid is aspirated and dispensed using a liquid transfer vehicle; and

said washing operation is conducted by:

generating a flow of a cleaning fluid to a first station and a flow of contaminated cleaning fluid away from said first station as said liquid is dispensed; and

aspirating said cleaning fluid into said liquid transfer vehicle at said first station.

**50. (New)** A method for operating a single channel reformatter ("SCR"), comprising:

forming an array of source-to-destination links, wherein said array has a size equal to a number of destination wells in a destination container;

specifying a subset of said array of source-to-destination links, wherein each said link is indicative of a source well from which liquid is to be removed and indicative of a destination well that receives the removed liquid; and

executing said source-to-destination links by removing liquid from said indicated source well and delivering it to said indicated destination well for each specified source-to-destination link.

**51. (New)** The method of claim 50 further comprising determining a preferred execution order for said source-to-destination links.

**52. (New)** The method of claim 51 wherein said preferred execution order comprises sequencing said source-to-destination links such that a destination well of a subsequent source-to-destination link is the closest well to a destination well of a previous source-to-destination link.

**53. (New)** The method of claim 52 wherein links that are sourced from the same source well are executed before executing a link that draws from a different source well, irrespective of the proximity of destination wells.